

SCLEROPAREI

SCORPAENIDAE

Dendrochirus brachyptera (C.V.) : Scorpion Fish

Cuvier & Valenciennes 1829 Hist. nat. Poissons 4 : 368

4 specimens, 91–120 mm. in total length.

Widespread in tropical Indo-Pacific waters. These fishes are brightly coloured and should be handled with care, as a wound from one of the sharp spines can be extremely painful. Attains a length of about seven inches. New record.

[Caught on the reef of Malé Island by fishermen, who regard them as very poisonous.—W. W. A. P.]

REFERENCES

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Regan, C. T. in Gardiner, J. S. (1901-1903) : Fauna and geography of the Maldives and Laccadives Archipelagoes 1: Pt. III Rep. No. 4: 272-281.

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PART VI — INSECTS

BY

W. W. A. PHILLIPS

I am greatly indebted to the various specialists at the British Museum (Natural History), who have worked out the collections that I brought back from the Maldive Islands and have identified the material. Also to Dr. W. E. China, M.A., sc.D., the Keeper of Entomology, for all his assistance in connection with them. The collections themselves have been donated to the British Museum (Natural History).

MOTHS — LEPIDOPTERA NOCTUA

All the Moths, listed in the following pages, were taken on islands within the North Malé Atoll; the majority of them were collected on Malé Island, the seat of the Maldivian Government. For a description of the locality and the Maldivian Archipelago reference should be made to *JBNHS* Vol. 55 (1) : 1-3. Against each species is given the name of the island, upon which it was taken.

Most of the specimens were captured amongst low vegetation and the lower branches of trees, by the beating method. Some were, however, taken by night. Sugaring was tried on the trunks of large trees growing in the Guest-house compound, at Malé, but without success.

The whole of the collection was made between the end of November 1956 and the middle of February 1957. As many species as possible were collected but a few species were seen, especially amongst the Sphingidae, that evaded capture.

The insect fauna as a whole, and the Lepidoptera in particular, of the Maldives, appear to be very similar to the corresponding fauna of the Indian peninsula and Ceylon but the known ranges of many species will be extended by this paper.

The following is a list of the specimens collected :

	NAME OF SPECIES	SEX		
		♂	♀	
Arctiidae				
<i>Utetheisa</i>	<i>pulchelloides</i> Hampson subsp. . . The Maldivic subspecies is closely related to <i>U. p. pulchelloides</i> occurring in the Seychelles Is. and the Chagos Archipelago.	14	20	Fujoadee I.
<i>Utetheisa</i>	<i>l. lotrix</i> Cramer ..	19	17	Malé I.
Hypsiidae				
<i>Deilemera</i>	<i>lacticinea</i> Cramer ..	1		Hululay I.
Noctuidae				
<i>Leucania</i>	<i>albistigma</i> Moore ..	1		At sea, near Kuda Boudos I.
"	"		1	Malé I.
<i>Calogramma</i>	<i>festiva</i> Donovan ..	5		Malé I.
<i>Chasmina</i>	<i>candida</i> Walker ..	1	1	Malé I.
"	"	1		Gardu I.
<i>Amyna</i>	<i>punctum</i> Fabricius ..	1		Gardu I.
"	"	1		Hululay I.
<i>Bombotelia</i>	<i>jocosatrix</i> Guenée ..	1	1	Malé I.
<i>Xanthodes</i>	<i>graellsii</i> Feisthamel ..	1		Malé I.
<i>Grammodes</i>	<i>hyppasia</i> Cramer ..		1	Malé I.
<i>Euclidisema</i>	<i>mygdon</i> Cramer ..		7	Malé I.
"	" "		1	Hululay I.
"	" "		1	Hulule I.
<i>Ericia</i>	<i>pertendens</i> Walker ..		1	Malé I.
<i>Gesonia</i>	<i>obeditalis</i> Walker ..	1		Malé I.
<i>Cosmophila</i>	<i>flava</i> Fabricius ..	1		Malé I.
<i>Cosmophila</i>	<i>sabulifera</i> Guenée ..		6	Malé I.
<i>Hypena</i>	<i>ignotalis</i> Walker ..	1		Malé I.
Hyblaeidae				
<i>Hyblaea</i>	<i>puera</i> Cramer ..	7	4	Hulule I.
Sphingidae				
<i>Macroglossum</i>	<i>gyrans</i> Walker ..	4		Hulule I.
"	" "	3		Malé I.

	NAME OF SPECIES	SEX		
		♂	♀	
Geometridae.				
<i>Thalassodes</i>	<i>immissaria</i> Walker	.. 4	1	Malé I.
<i>Scopula</i>	<i>caesaria</i> Walker	.. 1		Malé I.
"	"	1		Hulule I.
<i>Hyperythra</i>	<i>lutea</i> Stoll "	.. 1	1	Willinggillie I.
Limacodidae.				
<i>Macroleptra</i>	<i>nararia</i> Moore	.. 1		Malé I.
Thyrididae.				
<i>Striglina</i>	<i>scitaria</i> Walker	..	4	Hululay I.
Pyralidae.				
<i>Bradina</i>	<i>admixtal</i> Walker	.. 1		Malé I.
<i>Bradina</i>	<i>acrosbila</i> Meyrick	.. 14	6	Malé I.
"	"	1		Lankcumfurri I.
<i>Nymphula</i>	<i>stagnalis</i> Zeller	.. 2		Malé I.
<i>Earrhyarodes</i>	<i>tricoloralis</i> Fabricius	.. 1		Malé I.
<i>Sylepta</i>	<i>derogata</i> Fabricius	.. 8	7	Hululay I.
"	" "	6	4	Hulule I.
"	" "	1		Gardu I.
"	" "	30	17	Malé I.
<i>Dichocrocis</i>	<i>punctiferalis</i> Guenée	.. 1	2	Malé I.
<i>Margaronia</i>	<i>suralis</i> Lederer	.. 3	2	Gardu I.
"	" "	1		Hulule I.
"	" "		2	Hululay I.
"	" "		2	Lankcumfurri I.
"	" "		1	Malé I.
<i>Margaronia</i>	<i>caesalis</i> Walker	.. 1		Malé I.
Tortricidae				
<i>Argyroploce</i>	<i>aprobola</i> Meyrick (det. J. D. Bradley)	.. 3	3	Malé I.

Three Pyralidae (Phycitinae) remain indeterminable.

HEMIPTERA

All the species, given in the attached list were taken in Malé Island or on the islands close by, in the North Malé Atoll.

I am greatly indebted to Miss G. M. Day for making the identifications.

Suborder HETEROPTERA

PENTATOMIDAE

Piezodorus rubrofasciatus Fabr.

(India, SW. China, Philippine Is., Japan, Society Is., Samoan Is.)

Plautia fimbriata Fabr.

(Indo-China, China, India, Malaya)

Acrosternum graminea Fabr.

(India and Ceylon)

PYRRHOCORIDAE

Dysdercus cingulatus Fabr.

(India, Burma, Malaysia, Australia)

REDUVIIDAE

Triatoma rubrofasciatus de Geer

(S. China, Siam, W. Indies, Burma, India, Ceylon, Borneo, Philippine Is.)

MIRIDAE

Creontiades pallidifer Walk.

(Ceylon, China, India, Malaya, Christmas Is.)

Eurystylus bellevoeyi Reut.

(Africa, India, and Ceylon)

Suborder HOMOPTERA

FLATIDAE

Melicharia obtusangula Dist.

(India and Ceylon)

CICADELLIDAE

Parabolocratus arcuatus Motsch

(India, Ceylon and Queensland)